

REMARKS

The Office Action of April 18, 2003, has been received and reviewed. Claims 5, 10-12, 15, 27, 28 and 55-59 are pending and all claims appear to stand rejected. Claim 27 has been amended and claim 28 has been canceled as set forth herein. All amendments and cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer, such that any canceled subject matter may be pursued in a later filed application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

It appears that the rejections of claims 5, 10-12 and 15 have been withdrawn, but the Office Action Summary indicates that claims 5, 10-12, 15 and 55-59 stand rejected. However, no specific rejections of claims 5, 10-12, 15 and new claims 55-59 were indicated in the Office Action. In view of the foregoing, clarification of the status is requested.

Objections to Drawings

Drawings 1-4 were objected to by the draftsman as assertedly not having acceptable margins, dark enough lines, numbers or letters, or for having numbers or reference characters that are not plain and legible. A letter to the chief draftsman transmitting formal drawings is submitted herewith. Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 27 and 28 stand rejected as assertedly failing to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 28 has been canceled rendering the rejection thereof moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, at least partially, in view of the amendments to claim 27.

Although applicants do not agree that claim 27 does not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, claim 27 has been amended to remove the recitation of "said peptide comprising at least two coupled GnRH decapeptide sequences wherein at least one of the amino acids of said coupled GnRH decapeptide sequences is replaced by a different amino acid." As amended, claim 27 is not directed towards any amino acid residue being replaced by a different amino acid at any number of positions, but is directed to a peptide comprising at least two modified tandem GnRH decapeptide sequences, wherein the sequences are selected from the

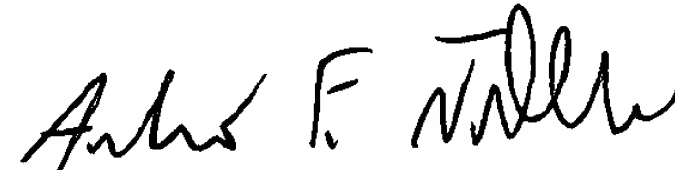
group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, and SEQ ID NO: 7. As amended, claim 27 should comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection of claim 27 are requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the claims define patentable subject matter. If questions remain after consideration of the foregoing, the Office is kindly requested to contact applicants' attorney at the address or telephone number given herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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